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Attorney Docket No.: 15162/02750



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

U.S. Application of:

Katsuhiko ASAII, Sadafusa TSUJI,
Katsuyuki NANBA, Masahiko MATSUURA,
Makiko MANDAI, Hiroshi ISHIBE,
Mikihiro KOMATSU, Kazuaki OKUMURA, and
Naoki MASAZUMI

For:

ELECTRONIC APPARATUS

U.S. Serial No.

09/770,078

Filed:

January 25, 2001

Group Art Unit:

2673

Examiner:

To Be Assigned

Assistant Director
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

MAR 21 2001
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Director for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on

MARCH 14, 2001

Date of Deposit

JAMES W. WILLIAMS

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

James W. Williams
Signature

MARCH 14, 2001

Date of Signature

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants wish to bring the following items to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of each item is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

The following document is cited in the specification of the above-identified patent application:

- (1) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 10-021457 (OMRON CORP), published January 23, 1998.

Applicants also wish to bring the following documents to the attention of the Examiner:

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- (2) Kobayashi et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,124,908, issued September 26, 2000;
- (3) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No.
 - (A) 05-264949 (IDEMITSU KOSAN CO LTD), published October 15, 1993;
- (4) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No.
 - (A) 05-264954 (IDEMITSU KOSAN CO LTD), published October 15, 1993; and
- (5) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No.
 - (A) 10-040966 (SONY CORP), published February 13, 1998.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects its relative pertinence. The references cited above are not intended to constitute an admission of any kind. Specifically, this presentation is not an admission that the items listed above are properly citable against the above-identified application.

Applicants consider the invention to be distinguishable over the above-cited documents.

As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs last, no fee is required. If it should be determined that a fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to Sidley & Austin's Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

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Respectfully submitted,



James W. Williams
Registration No. 20,047
Attorney for Applicants

JWW/mhg
SIDLEY & AUSTIN
717 North Harwood
Suite 3400
Dallas, Texas 75201-6507
(214) 981-3328 (direct)
(214) 981-3300 (main)
March 14, 2001